

Message Text

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12
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2349
USMISSION USBERLIN PRIORITY
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AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF PRIORITY
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT PRIORITY
AMCONSUL HAMBURG PRIORITY
AMCONSUL MUNICH PRIORITY
USEUCOM VAIHINGEN
USAREUR HEIDELBERG

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FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, GW
SUBJ: BAADER-MAINHOF DEVELOPMENTS

1. SUMMARY: AS OF MORNING OF FEBRUARY 5, FOUR BAADER-MEINHOF (B-M) PRISONERS IN STUTTGART-STAMMHEIM HAVE GIVEN UP HUNGER AND THIRST STRIKE. B-M ATTORNEY CROISSANT ATTEMPTING TO CONVINCE BAADER-MEINHOF PRISONERS IN OTHER STATES (LAENDER) TO GIVE UP STRIKE ALSO. TRIAL DATE FOR HARD CORE MEMBERS OF GROUP SET FOR MAY 21. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING DETAILS HAVE BEEN VERIFIED BY STUTTGART CONSULATE WITH POLICE AND COURT AUTHORITIES: AS OF FEB. 5 MAIN BAADER-MEINHOF PRISONERS IN STUTTGART- STAMMHEIM HAVE GIVEN UP HUNGER AND THIRST STRIKE. NO REASONS GIVEN.
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PRISON AUTHORITIES BELIEVE IT IS REACTION TO LETTER FROM

WEST BERLIN SIGNED " RED ARMY FRAKTION/RAF (S) " ADDRESSED TO RAF PRISONERS." LETTER ALSO SENT SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS INCLUDING STUTTGARTGARTER ZEITUNG. THE HECTOGRAPHED LETTER READS: "WHAT THE STRIKE AS A LAST WEAPON OF OUR PRISONERS COULD ACHIEVE FOR THE COORDINATION, MOBILIZATION , AND ORGANIZATION

OF ANTI-IMPERIALIST POLITICS, HAS BEEN ACHIEVED. AN ESCALATION CANNOT RESULT IN ADDITIONAL STRENGTH OF THE FIGHT. CONTINUING THE STRIKE WOULD MEAN SACRIFICING ONESELF." LAWYERS OF GROUP MADE POINT OF CONFIRMING GENUINENESS OF LETTER. ACCORDING TO POST'S COURT CONTACTS, LETTER DOES NOT MEAN BAADER-MEINHOF GROUP HAS NEW LEADERSHIP OUTSIDE OF PRISONS.

AUTHORITIES BELIEVE LETTER REVEALS WRITING STYLE OF ULRIKE MEINHOF AND MAY HAVE BEEN SMUGGLED OUT OF PRISON BY HER LAWYER, REPRODUCED, AND MAILED FROM BERLIN.

3. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF FOUR STUTTGART-STAMMHEIM PRISONERS STILL REPORTED CRITICAL. ON FEBRUARY 3, SEPARATE CELLS FOR ANDREAS BAADER AND JAN CARL RASPE DISCONTINUED DUE CRITICAL CONDITION OF RASPE. BOTH NOW IN SAME CELL ENABLING BAADER TO ALERT DOCTORS SHOULD RASPE'S CONDITION WORSEN.

4. BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG LAND GOVERNMENT HAD DIFFICULTIES FINDING DOCTORS WATCH OVER PRISONERS WHO REFUSED TO LET DOCTORS COME CLOSE. SEVERAL DOCTORS FROM UNIVERSITY CLINICS FLATLY REFUSED SUCH DUTY AND EVEN FILED COMPLAINTS WITH ADMINISTRATIVE COURT. FINALLY, LAND GOVERNMENT LEGALLY OBLIGED SOME DOCTORS UNDERTAKE DUTY SHIFTS.

5. SECOND PANEL SENATE OF OBERLANDESGERICHT STUTTGART HAS SET DATE FOR MAIN TRIAL AGAINST ANDREAS BAADER, JAN CARL RASPE, ULRIKE MEINHOF AND GUDRUN ENSSLIN FOR MAY 21 IN STUTTGART- STAMMHEIM. SENATE HAS FULLY ACCEPTED BILL OF INDICTMENT. THE FOUR DEFENDANTS ACCUSED HAVING KILLED FOUR PEOPLE IN SIX SHOOTINGS DEFENDANTS ALSO ACCUSED ATTEMPTED MURDER OF 54 PERSONS IN ADDITION TO ASSAULTS ON BANKS IN BERLIN AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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KAISERSLAUTERN AND BREAK-IN INTO CITY HALLS TO GET DOCUMENTS AND OFFICIAL SEALS. THE SENATE MADE NO STATEMENTS CONCERNING EXPECTED DURATION OF TRIAL, BUT EXPERTS EXPECT IT TO LAST AT LEAST ONE YEAR. SINCE THE DEFENDANTS STILL REFUSE TO MAKE STATEMENTS REGARDING CHARGES AGAINST THEM, IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR COURT TO PRESENT ACTUAL PROOF AND MATERIAL WITNESSES IN ADDITION EXPERT OPINIONS. AT PRESENT, IT IS UNKNOWN HOW MANY

DEFENSE ATTORNEYS WILL PARTICIPATE. SO FAR , SENATE
HAS SUMMONED TEN DEFENSE ATTORNEYS OF WHOM FIVE
ALLEGEDLY DO NOT HAVE THE CONFIDENCE OF THE DEFENDANTS.
STUTTGART LAWYER CROISSANT SAID HE, GROENEWOLD , AND
STROEBELE WERE EXCLUDED FROM DEFENSE BECAUSE OF
SUSPICION OF PARTICIPATION IN GROUP'S ACTIVITIES.JENKINS

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